

## **Historic, Archive Document**

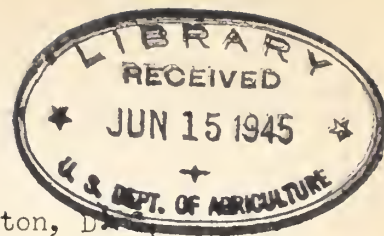
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Reserve

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Soil Conservation Service



Washington, D.C.  
April 2, 1943

FIELD MEMORANDUM SCS # 1088

Re: Victory Gardens

TO ALL REGIONAL CONSERVATORS:

Your attention is directed to the attached copy of Memorandum No. 1081 issued by the Secretary's Office on March 25, 1943 in the interest of the VICTORY GARDEN PROGRAM.

This service is greatly interested in the furtherance of this program, and in view of the exigency which demands increased food production, we feel that everything possible should be done to foster the idea and to encourage cultivation of garden plots.

There are doubtless many plots of Government-owned land at our various field stations throughout the country which could be advantageously used for the purpose of Victory Gardens. As the Secretary's memorandum has clearly shown, information as to the availability of such land shall not be restricted to any person or group, but shall be made available through the newspapers or such other means as may be locally available. The Secretary has also stressed equal treatment of all applicants.

You have adequate authority under Field Memoranda SCS #892 and 892-A and related field memoranda to carry out the Secretary's Victory Garden program on Title III lands. Information available here indicates some projects have initiated such a program through the standard Schedule of Rates procedure providing for a reasonable charge for this privilege. You may dispense with Schedules of Rates if you deem desirable by issuing the necessary instructions to Title III projects providing for a reasonable charge, or free use if deemed appropriate. The Special Use Permit, Form SCS-39, should be used in issuing Victory Garden permits on Title III lands.

To facilitate operation of this program on other than Title III lands, authority is hereby granted to all Regional Conservators and to such responsible field officials as they may designate, to execute revocable permits for Victory Garden purposes on the form suggested by the Secretary in his memorandum.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. C. Dykes".

Acting Chief

Attachment



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Office of the Secretary  
Washington

March 25, 1943

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MEMORANDUM NO. 1081

Delegation of Authority for Issuance of Revocable Permits for Use of  
Government-owned Land under the Jurisdiction of the United States De-  
partment of Agriculture for Food Production Purposes

In the interest of enlisting the use of Government-owned lands under the jurisdiction of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, not otherwise required for more vital purposes in the administration of the Department programs, to further our National food production program, the Heads of Administrations and Bureaus, having immediate jurisdiction over such lands, are hereby delegated authority to issue revocable permits for the use of such lands for Victory Garden purposes. Victory Gardens are interpreted to mean family size garden plots where produce raised is for home consumption and not for sale to others.

Information as to availability of such land shall not be restricted to any person or group of persons, but shall be made public through the newspapers or by such other suitable means as may be available to local field officials. In the issuance of permits for plots of land for Victory Gardens, every precaution should be taken to insure equal treatment of all applicants.

All lands, wherever possible, should be placed in food production when such action is not in conflict with more vital uses. Revocable permits should not be issued for use of land which is not suitable for Victory Garden purposes or where security considerations would prohibit such use. There should not be indiscriminate plow-up of grassland.

The Heads of Administrations and Bureaus may redelegate the authority contained in this Memorandum to responsible field officials of their respective agencies.

In order to facilitate action in this matter, the Solicitor has approved the attached form to serve as a guide to field officials in preparing revocable permits.

The authorities contained in this Memorandum shall be for the duration of the war emergency and six months thereafter.

/s/ Grover B. Hill  
Assistant Secretary



SAMPLE

REVOCABLE PERMIT FORM

Mr. John Doe  
1000 Oak Street  
Wellville, Illinois

Dear Mr. Doe:

In furtherance of the Food Production Program, you are hereby authorized to use a parcel of land consisting of \_\_\_\_\_ square feet, designated by me and located at \_\_\_\_\_, for the purposes of planting and maintaining thereon a Victory Garden for production of food for home consumption, and not for sale to others.

It is understood that your use of the land shall be such as not to interfere with the activities of the Department and that you will promptly comply with any and all instructions given you by a responsible representative of the Department.

This permit is subject to revocation at the discretion of the person granting it or of any other duly authorized official of the Department. Upon the giving of notice of revocation of this permit, it shall become null and void.

Sincerely yours,

(Working Title of  
Authorized Official)

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